UCSF
Newsbreak

News for the UCSF Campus Community

VOL. 13, NO. 13 JUNE 19, 1998

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Debas reflects on productive year

By LISA CISNEROS

Dean Haile Debas, who has done double duty as chancellor for the past year, reflected on what has been a difficult albeit productive 12 months during his state of the school address on Monday.

"We are reorganizing curriculum, we have merged our clinical services with Stanford and, perhaps, most exciting, we have the amazing opportunity to plan a new research campus in San Francisco," Debas told a standing-room-only crowd in N 217.

Debas said that he has been "amazed" by the speed with which the plans for the Mission Bay campus are developing and identified the first programs to move to the 43-acre site: structural and chemical biology; cell, molecular and developmental biology; human genetics; and a developmental neuroscience group.

"Construction is slated to begin in mid-1999 and occupation of the premises to occur some two or three years after that," Debas said. "I never thought I would see a second UCSF campus in my lifetime, much less during my deanship, but I think it's going to happen."

Acknowledging that the move to Mission Bay will impact research activities on Parnassus and at San Francisco General Hospital, Debas said a group is developing a revitalization strategy for both Parnassus and another is doing the same for SFGH.

"Our programs at San Francisco General Hospital are vital to the mission of the School of Medicine and the survival and success of SFGH is a priority for me as dean and for the school," he said.

Looking forward to turning his full at-

(See **School** on page 6)

Chris T. Anderson

Newly minted nurses

UCSF School of Nursing graduates, from left, Jennifer Scanlon, Lisa Marie Heyn and Karen Weiss, rejoice at commencement ceremonies held June 5 in the Nob Hill Masonic Memorial Temple. Scanlon had something else to be happy about: She was this year's recipient of the Outstanding Master of Science Student Award for best demonstrating leadership, scholarship, expertise in the area of specialization and potential for significant contribution to nursing and scholarship. For more photos from the graduation ceremony, see page 7.

UCSF to form Center for Integrative Medicine

By ABBY SINNOTT

The Bernard Osher Foundation has given UCSF a $10 million gift to establish the Osher Center for Integrative Medicine (OCIM).

Its mission is to search for the most effective treatments by combining non-traditional and traditional approaches that address all aspects of health and wellness — biological, psychological, social and spiritual. Through scientific research, the center will document the value of non-traditional treatments and integrate approaches of proven value into patient care.

The UCSF School of Medicine has committed an additional $1.1 million to the center and UCSF Stanford Health Care has matched that, bringing the center's total gift to $12.2 million.

"The School of Medicine has made a major commitment to this program," says

(See **Center** on page 8)

Study of drunk fruit flies could shed light on alcoholism

By JENNIFER O'BRIEN

Researchers at UCSF say studies of how fruit flies become drunk may lead to an understanding of why some people are more apt to become alcoholics.

Researchers led by Ulrike Heberlein, an assistant professor of neurology at UCSF and an investigator in the Ernest Gallo Clinic and Research Center at San Francisco General Hospital, reported in the June 12 issue of *Cell,* that they identified a molecular pathway that is responsible for regulating the flies' meandering, wobbling responses to alcohol. Investigators say there is evidence of a similar pathway in humans.

Heberlein

The study was praised in an accompanying review by Hugo J. Bellen, a Howard Hughes Medical Institute investigator, who says it "lays the foundation for a genetic approach to dissecting the acute, and possibly the chronic, effects of alcohol" and "should increase our understanding of the molecular mechanisms causing drug abuse and addiction in the near future."

Previous studies have determined that people who are less sensitive to alcohol's impact are at greater risk for becoming alcoholics, and that the degree of sensitivity to alcohol is genetically influenced. Young men with a family history of alcoholism, for instance, are less sensitive to alcohol than those from families without alcoholism. But researchers have been unable to determine the biological explanation for the relationship between a sensitivity to alcohol and a risk for alcoholism.

In the fruit fly, or Drosophila (Dra-SOPH-i-la), study, led by Ulrike Heberlein, an assistant professor of neurology at UCSF and an investigator in the Ernest Gallo Clinic and Research Center at San Francisco General Hospital, the researchers sought to determine what molecular factors influence a fruit fly's sensitivity to alcohol. They set about this challenge by "knocking out," or removing, different genes from the fruit flies and then exposing them to alcohol as a way of revealing the role the missing genes would normally play. When they knocked out a gene known as amnesiac, the flies became more sensitive, or more inebriated, than their brethren.

More important, however, when the researchers examined how the amnesiac gene normally functions within the fruit fly's neural system, they determined that it regulates the cyclic AMP (cAMP) pathway, a signal transduction cascade that scientists at the Gallo Center have long known was affected by alcohol through studies in human cells. This discovery fit with a previous finding, namely that amnesiac is believed to encode a molecule that stimulates cAMP production.

The scientists thus deduced that the fruit flies missing the amnesiac gene had reduced cAMP production, and that this action caused greater intoxication. To test their hypothesis, they treated the

(See **Fruit flies** on page 3)

Crime on UC campuses drops to 10-year low

The number of major crimes reported to the FBI last year on the University of California's nine campuses decreased by more than 11 percent, falling to the lowest point in more than a decade, according to crime statistics UC reports to the FBI.

The drop in UC's overall crime rate in 1997 included a 12 percent decrease in property crimes — burglary, theft, motor vehicle theft and arson. Violent crime — homicide, rape, attempted rape, robbery and aggravated assault — increased 6 percent, but represented less than 2 percent of crimes occurring on UC campuses.

The overall crime rate was also down on each campus. Decreases were led by UC Riverside, with a 35 percent decline. UC's two largest campuses, UCLA and UC Berkeley, reported decreases of 4 percent and 10 percent, respectively.

UC reported 6,505 crimes to the FBI last year — the lowest total since 1987 when 8,661 crimes were reported. The decline mirrors the drop in the national crime rate as well as the decrease in crime reported by other major colleges and universities.

The 1997 report shows:

- There were no homicides committed on UC campuses, while the 14 rapes reported was the same number as reported in 1996. There were two attempted rapes, down one from the year before; 49 robberies, up nine, and 69 aggravated assaults, the same as

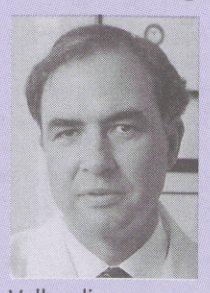
(See **Crime** on page 7)

Study finds widespread noncompliance to US HIV guidelines

UCSF professor of medicine Paul Volberding announced recently that 25 percent of people starting treatment for HIV are prescribed therapy that is inconsistent with the US Department of Health and Human Services Guidelines.

The study also found that women, African-Americans and Hispanics were less likely to receive care from an experienced physician than were white men.

"The study has revealed some troubling information about the obstacles to treatment that women and minorities face which may, in part, contribute to the increased rate of mortality seen among this patient population," says Volberding, who is also the director of the UCSF AIDS Program and Medical Oncology at SFGH. "For example, many of the more experienced physicians are not always easily accessible to this growing segment of the population most affected by HIV."



Volberding

Volberding jointly announced the results from the first National HIV/AIDS Treatment Survey in Washington, DC with John G. Bartlett, Chief, Division of Infectious Diseases, Johns Hopkins University. The survey was conducted by Louis Harris & Associates and funded with a grant from Merck & Co. Inc.

"Not suppressing viral replication to the greatest extent possible means that patients are more likely to experience symptoms of HIV, and their risk of developing an AIDS-related infection may be increased," Bartlett says. The survey evaluated HIV-treating physicians' current use of antiretrovirals, their general awareness and acceptance of the federal guidelines, and how closely they followed them.

The survey results specifically showed that physicians with the least experience treating HIV waited longer to begin treatment and prescribed fewer medications than recommended in the federal guidelines. "The disparity in the treatment of HIV — especially for particular populations — signals an urgent need to educate physicians and patients more aggressively on the guidelines for people with HIV and supports recent plans to create an HIV professional society," Volberding says.

The federal Guidelines for the Use of Antiretroviral Agents in HIV-Infected Adults and Adolescents were issued in November 1997 and are similar to the HIV treatment guidelines issued by the International AIDS Society (IAS) of the US in June 1997.

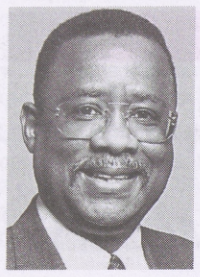
"It's clear that physicians who receive new information and education on an ongoing basis are more likely to adopt and apply these treatment guidelines," says Volberding. "Likewise, patients who are familiar with the health benefits related to new treatments will more likely seek and receive the most aggressive care."

Treatment guidelines are available on HIV Insite at http://hivinsite.ucsf.edu/.

— Corinna Kaarlela contributed to this report.

Wagner to lead SF Community Health Network

Former UCSF administrator Anthony Wagner has been named executive administrator of the Community Health Network of San Francisco.


Wagner

Wagner was appointed deputy administrator of the network in 1996 and has been serving as interim executive administrator since February of this year.

An integrated health delivery system, the Community Health Network consists of San Francisco General and Laguna Honda hospitals, mental and home health services, jail health services and 18 neighborhood health centers, all in partnership with the UCSF School of Medicine.

Mitchell Katz, director of the San Francisco Department of Public Health, announced the appointment at a Health Commission meeting on June 2.

"We are extremely fortunate to have Anthony Wagner ready to assume the challenge and leadership of the Community Health Network," Katz said. "Anthony brings a broad base of experience and expertise to this critical position. We will continue to draw on his background in health care administration, his professional reputation and his extensive network of national, regional and local affiliations to the administration of our direct patient care services."

A native of Alton, Illinois, Wagner began his career at UCSF in 1974 as an administrative resident. He became assistant director of hospitals and clinics in 1977 and deputy associate director of UCSF Medical Center in 1982. He took the helm as administrator and chief executive officer of Laguna Honda Hospital and Rehabilitation Center in 1988.

A member of several civic and professional organizations, Wagner has received numerous awards for leadership and community service from organizations such as the American Heart Association, the San Francisco Chamber of Commerce, and the Third Baptist Church, the oldest African American congregation west of the Rockies, where he is an active member.

Appointments

Gene Marie O'Connell, assistant professor, UCSF School of Nursing: Appointed director of the Community Health Network's (CHN) Patient Care Services and executive administrator of SFGH. After joining SFGH in 1984, O'Connell was appointed director of staff development and research in 1987 and was promoted to director of emergency nursing in 1991. She became the hospital's director of nursing a year later. In 1995, O'Connell was named chief operating officer of the CHN. O'Connell holds a master's degree in nursing administration from UCSF. She received the 1994 Public Managerial Leadership Award from San Francisco's Chamber of Commerce.

Melissa Welch, associate clinical professor in medicine at UCSF: Named chief medical officer of the Community Health Network. Welch was the medical director of the Maxine Hall Health Center. A graduate of Harvard Medical School, Welch holds a master's degree in public health epidemiology from UC Berkeley. As a member of the UCSF Chancellor's Committee on Diversity, Welch collaborates with University research and teaching efforts focused on diverse populations.

Karen Preuss

Breakfast with Bishop and company

UCSF Chancellor-designate J. Michael Bishop, left, and Bruce Spaulding, vice chancellor of University Advancement and Planning, right, chat with California Assembly Speaker pro tempore Sheila Kuehl at a morning reception hosted by the UCSF Women's Resource Center.

Kuehl came to UCSF's Laurel Heights to convene a hearing on women's health issues for the Assembly Select Committee on California's Women. Among the participants at the hearing were UCSF faculty members Pilar Bernal de Pheils, assistant clinical professor of nursing; Lynn Ponton, professor of clinical psychiatry; and Kathryn Lee, associate professor in family health nursing.

Haight Ashbury Clinics applaud CAPS

The Haight Ashbury Free Clinics celebrated their 31st anniversary on June 5 by honoring individuals and institutions, including UCSF's Center for AIDS Prevention Studies (CAPS), for helping it achieve its goals of providing health care, education, training and research.

Coates

CAPS was recognized as the health care honoree, an award given to an outstanding individual, organization or corporation with a proven record of community service and support as well as health care delivery which "has significantly improved the quality of life in the community and whose dedication to accessible health care has led to greater access for the community."

Headed by Thomas J. Coates, UCSF professor of medicine and epidemiology and executive director of the UCSF AIDS Research Institute, CAPS was established in 1986. CAPS conducts epidemiological and behavioral studies in the primary prevention and early intervention of HIV disease. Research activities are carried out locally, nationally, and internationally. CAPS also conducts ethical and policy analyses of AIDS-related issues and provides a program of technology transfer and exchange with community-based organizations. It also maintains national and international training programs for behavioral and medical scientists.

David E. Smith, who began the Haight clinic in 1967 in response to the medical needs of the youth living in the neighborhood during the "Summer of Love," received a lifetime achievement award at the anniversary event.

Today — with more than a million visits logged — the Haight Ashbury Free Clinics continue to serve a majority of the working poor, medically indigent, at-risk youth and other individuals who are unable to bear any sudden medical expense.

Private Support

UCSF is pleased to acknowledge the following gifts/pledges of $25,000 or more from individuals, corporations and foundations received May 24-June 6, 1998.

$1,000,000 or more
The Bernard Osher Foundation

$500,000 -$999,999
Burroughs Wellcome Fund

$100,000 - $249,999
The William and Flora Hewlett Foundation
Jewish Community Federation of San Francisco/Peninsula
The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation
Mr. and Mrs. Mervin G. Morris
Estate of Renee Pantera

$25,000 - $99,999
Estate of Arthur S. and Evelyn L. Harris
Nycomed Inc.
United Negro College Fund

Honors & Awards

Ellen Goldstein, manager of community programs, technology & information exchange core at UCSF's Center for AIDS Prevention Studies (CAPS), and **Rafael Diaz**, associate professor of medicine: Honored at the 3rd Annual San Francisco HIV Prevention Awards.

The awards were given to members of the community to honor and thank them for their work in HIV prevention. A cocktail party in their honor took place on June 15 at Harry Denton's Starlight Room. Proceeds benefited the STOP AIDS Project.

Goldstein received the Chuck Frutchey Board of Directors Award. She has been involved in HIV/AIDS as a volunteer, trainer, program manager, researcher, facilitator and planner for 10 years. At CAPS, she has focused bridging the gap and fostering collaboration between academic research and direct service.

Diaz, who received the Sam B. Puckett Memorial HIV Prevention Award, has focused on identifying, and addressing with interventions, the sociocultural barriers that limit Latino gay men's ability to direct their own sexuality and practice safer sex.

Two scientists receive Burroughs career awards

UCSF researchers David J. Robbins and Surachai Supattapone are among 25 US and Canadian biomedical scientists who share a common goal — discovery of basic knowledge that will lead to improved human health and well-being.

The researchers are 1998 recipients of the Burroughs Wellcome Fund's (BWF) Career Awards in the Biomedical Sciences. BWF has awarded a total of $12.5 million to foster the development and productivity of these promising researchers and to help them make the critical transition to becoming independent investigators.

Robbins, who studies cell biology and regulation, will focus on dissecting the hedgehog signal transduction pathway. Supattapone, a neuroscientist, will study the structure and biology of a soluble prion.

The awards provide support ranging from $412,500 for four years to $532,400 for six years to bridge advanced postdoctoral training and the first three years of faculty service. It is expected that by the end of the award, recipients will be engaged in productive research programs that will enable them to compete effectively for continued support, especially from the federal government, which underwrites most basic biomedical research.

"Unlike most programs offered by government and other private organizations, which typically provide a year or two of postdoctoral training or beginning faculty support, these longer-lasting awards are expected to provide the freedom and funding security that will enable investigators to develop innovative and independent research programs during a critical time in their careers," says Enriqueta C. Bond, president of BWF.

The Burroughs Wellcome Fund is an independent private foundation established to advance the medical sciences by supporting research and other scientific and educational activities.

Information about BWF and its award programs can be obtained electronically by sending an email message to mailback@bwfund.org —type the word "menu" on the subject line for a list of programs. To request a specific brochure to be delivered by regular mail, or to send a message to a program officer, access BWF at info@bwfund.org. Information also is available on BWF's website at http://www.bwfund.org.

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Robert Foothorap

A gift to benefit humankind

Tadashi Suzuki, president and chief executive officer of the Daiichi Pharmaceutical Co., speaks at a special ceremony held June 8 in the Lange Reading Room in honor of Daiichi's recent grant to finance UCSF research. The Tokyo-based company will give UCSF scientists $11 million over the next three years to study heart disease and cancer. The latest grant is part of an ongoing partnership between UCSF and Daiichi, which funded the establishment of the Daiichi Research Center for the study of cardiovascular disease with a $19.8 million grant in 1993.

Study shows dangers of fast food

By JAMES LARKIN

Researchers say the "oxidized" cholesterol, found in fried and processed foods — commonly on the menu of many fast food restaurants — could speed the clogging of arteries and increase the risk of heart disease.

Researchers at the San Francisco Veterans Affairs Medical Center (SFVAMC) and UCSF demonstrated in studies with rabbits that a diet containing oxidized cholesterol may increase the amount of fatty deposits on blood vessel walls.

While it is uncertain whether the results of these animal studies are applicable to humans, the researchers believe their findings are clearly cause for concern.

"With the popularity of fried foods and the widespread fast food industry, oxidized fats are common in the Western diet and could contribute to heart disease," says Ilona Staprans, head of the SFVAMC Lipid Research Laboratory and principal investigator of the study. "Our research leads us to believe that heated cholesterol-containing foods may be considered a risk factor for heart disease."

"Oxidized fats are common in the Western diet and could contribute to heart disease."

– ILONA STAPRANS

Head of the SFVAMC Lipid Research Laboratory

The results of the study, which appear in the current issue of Arteriosclerosis, Thrombosis and Vascular Biology: Journal of the American Heart Association, dramatically illustrate the negative effects of oxidized cholesterol. The researchers studied two groups of genetically similar rabbits. Both groups were fed a low-cholesterol diet but one group had a small amount of oxidized cholesterol added. After only 12 weeks, the rabbits on the oxidized cholesterol diet developed a 100 percent increase in fat deposits in their aortas — the major artery that carries blood from the heart. According to Staprans, the small amount of added oxidized cholesterol (25 milligrams a day), is equivalent to amounts found in an average American's diet.

When consumed, oxidized cholesterol is absorbed and combines with fat particles in the blood known as lipoproteins. As these lipoproteins containing oxidized cholesterol travel through the blood stream, they can adhere to the walls of arteries and form fatty deposits called plaque. When plaque builds up in an artery, it slowly blocks blood flow the way a rusty pipe restricts the travel of water. If the flow of blood becomes too slow and the heart doesn't receive enough oxygen, heart disease may develop.

Co-investigators in the study were Joseph H. Rapp, SFVAMC chief of vascular surgery and UCSF professor in residence; Xian-Mang Pan, SFVAMC research associate; and Kenneth R. Feingold, SFVAMC department of metabolism and UCSF professor in residence. The research was funded by the US Department of Veterans Affairs and the Pacific Vascular Research Foundation.

Fruit flies (from page 1)

mutant amnesiac flies with agents that increased cAMP levels and were able to reverse the alcohol sensitivity.

The finding made a giant leap from an isolated gene in fruit flies to an entire molecular pathway previously observed in animal and human cell cultures. "This was an exciting discovery," says Heberlein. "We've known cAMP was involved in the brain's response to alcohol, but we haven't known what role it plays in causing the behavioral effects associated with intoxication. Our study demonstrates that proper regulation of the cAMP signaling pathway is central to establishing ethanol sensitivity in Drosophila."

The finding does not suggest that the amnesiac mutation exists in humans, nor that any one gene affects sensitivity to alcohol in higher animals. The significance, says Heberlein "is that we have found a pathway that modulates the response to alcohol."

The next step, she says, "is to identify more genes in fruit flies associated with alcohol behaviors and to see if we can find homologous, or similarly acting, genes in higher organisms, including mice and humans." Ultimately, of course, if these genes do exist in humans the researchers hope to find that they are linked to alcoholic behaviors.

Given how strikingly similar the fruit flies' behavioral response to alcohol is to the human response, says Heberlein, this may well happen, for the similarity indicates that the genes that regulate these behaviors have not changed significantly in the evolutionary process, suggesting that a common molecular pathway may be in place.

The UCSF laboratory, part of UCSF's new Center for the Neurobiology of Addiction, which includes the Gallo Center, is the only institute in the world using Drosophila for studying the genetics of alcoholism.

The UCSF study was funded by grants from the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism, the Alcoholic Beverage Medical Research Foundation and the March of Dimes Birth Defects Foundation.

Researchers study mice to understand low back pain

By LORDELYN DEL ROSARIO

UCSF researchers have shown in studies of mice that heavy loads on the spine alter the physical structure and biologic activity of discs — the gel-filled cushions between bones in the spine.

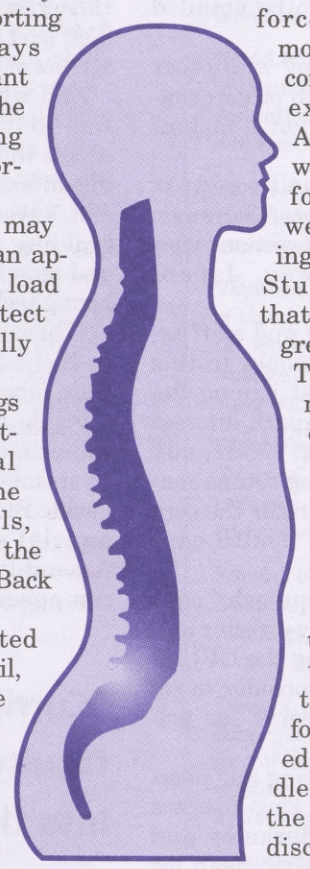
"The findings should lead to improved treatments for one cause of low back pain, disc degeneration — a condition in which discs become dehydrated and inefficient at supporting forces in the spine," says Jeffrey Lotz, UCSF assistant professor and director of the orthopaedic bioengineering laboratory, department of orthopaedic surgery.

"In addition, the research may allow us to define what is an appropriate or inappropriate load for the back to better protect workers from occupationally related injury."

Lotz presented his findings June 12 at the annual meeting of the International Society for the Study of the Lumbar Spine in Brussels, Belgium, where he received the 1998 Volvo Award for Low Back Pain Research.

The researchers conducted their study on the mouse tail, which is an extension of the mouse's spine and consists of discs analogous to those in a human back. This is the first model, says Lotz, that has allowed researchers to control precisely the forces on the discs and to examine in detail how discs respond to these forces.

"The relationship between physical activity and back pain has been an enigma. Historically, clinicians thought excessive force on the spine could rupture the discs acutely, leading to low back pain," says Lotz. "But our studies suggest the process is more complex and insidious."



The study, says Lotz, sheds light on why a majority of humans develop significant disc degeneration and may not be aware of it until it is too late.

In the current study, researchers examined the biological and biomechanical consequences of excessive loading to understand the subtle relationship between forces on the back and disc degeneration.

Researchers applied three levels of force (low, medium, high) to mouse discs for a week — levels comparable to lifting activities experienced by humans. Additional groups of mice were allowed to recuperate for four weeks after the loads were removed before examining the discs.

Study findings demonstrated that the higher the loading, the greater the degree of cell death. The high loading inhibited the natural process by which cells maintain and repair the disc. Over time, this diminishes the disc's ability to attract water and 're-inflate' itself during periods of rest, Lotz says.

"When discs lose the ability to attract water, they become underinflated in a way similar to a flat tire," he says. "The force which is usually supported by the pressure in the middle, is now being supported by the tissue on the outside of the disc, leading to unstable movement of the spine."

Researchers found discs with high loads did not recover because of excessive cell death and a lost ability to attract water. Cells on the outside of these discs responded to the chronic underpressurization and began to produce fibrocartilage, which normally is not present in healthy discs but is a common finding in degenerated human discs, he said.

"This is the first study to show that heavy loads on the spine lead to remodeling of the disc — that is, a change in its architecture in response to altered stresses," says Lotz.

These findings are relevant to human back pain, he says. Chemicals made by cartilage cells, now close to the edge, may irritate nerve roots, according to Lotz, and bulging of the discs may also push on nearby nerve roots.

These research findings have implications for biological repair strategies to correct disc degeneration, he adds. For example, UCSF researchers are injecting growth factors directly in the mouse disc in attempts to stimulate disc cells to restore the correct disc tissue architecture. Ultimately, this strategy may decrease the need for spinal surgery or fusion of back bones, traditional treatments for degenerated discs.

In addition, UCSF researchers are using this model to identify the limits of healthy and unhealthy back forces, which ultimately may allow them to develop improved occupational guidelines for protecting workers.

The Volvo Car Company of Gotenborg Sweden sponsors an annual international competition to foster research on low back pain. Each year, three papers are selected by a committee of scientists who are members of the International Society for the Study of the Lumbar Spine. The papers are in one of three areas: clinical studies; bioengineering studies; or studies in other basic science areas.

The co-investigators of the study were Olivier Colliou, graduate student in the UCSF/UC Berkeley Bioengineering Graduate Group; Jennie Chin, research specialist, UCSF department of orthopaedic surgery; Neil Duncan, assistant professor, department of civil engineering, University of Calgary; and Ellen Lieberg, research assistant, UCSF department of orthopaedic surgery.

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UCSF considers joining California Virtual University

By LISA CISNEROS

Excited about the prospects of entering a new era of online education, faculty and staff are looking at how UCSF can become part of the California Virtual University, which unites on one website the online and technology-based distance course offerings of 95 colleges and universities.

Rather than visiting websites of each of these state-accredited institutions, an Internet user can go directly to www.california.edu/ to access a catalog of online instruction. The CVU includes a virtual student union and a faculty center where both can learn more about Web-based instruction.

UCSF faculty and staff have worked independently to adapt information for the Web. For example, the Computer Graphics Lab, directed by Thomas Ferrin, has for a long time used its website for outreach and training in the use of molecular modeling techniques and molecular graphics. While these have not been formal courses, the pieces are in place to link to the CVU, Ferrin says.

CVU offers UCSF a new opportunity and some financial support as well to define and develop the University's ability to expand education in the digital frontier.

So far, five UC campuses have joined the system, which has offered roughly 700 classes, averaging about 25 people per class since it went online last year. Its website has generated more than a half-million hits, according to Rick Halberg, a CVU spokesperson.

The California venture is intended to help teach an expected surge in the number of undergraduate students as well as to meet a growing demand for continuing education and training for the workforce and to share information, such as the latest research findings.

Lifelong learning is ever more critical in this, the information age, when the need to be brought up to speed never ends. "We should think of education as K through 80," says Carol Tomlinson-Keasey, chair of the board of directors for the non-profit CVU.

As vice president for academic initiatives at the UC Office of the President, Tomlinson-Keasey is responsible for promoting academic uses of instructional and information technology and is coordinating UC's involvement with the CVU, a project of the University of California, California State University, California Community Colleges and the Association of Independent California Colleges and Universities.

The CVU was launched in April 1997 after Gov. Pete Wilson agreed with educators to build on the strengths of the state's higher education system rather than create a whole new degree-granting university. Instead, the CVU leaves decisions about course content, quality and credits, fees and faculty up to the participating campuses.

"Curriculum has always been the province of the faculty so we must get this to the campuses and into the faculty's hands," says Tomlinson-Keasey. "That's where we'll get the creativity and functionality that we want."

She came to UCSF recently to discuss how the graduate health sciences campus may become part of the system. "At the postgraduate level, we're looking at refreshing knowledge and building new skills for adults interested in career advancement," she says.

Tomlinson-Keasey says that education of the future must be fast, flexible and global. "Universities don't do fast very well," she says. "In fact, we don't do fast well at all. But we can do better on being flexible and global."

Indeed, Tomlinson-Keasey says UC's extension classes — many of which are now available via the CVU — have gone the distance in reaching out to adults wanting to learn new skills to stay competitive at work.

Education, too, must be service-oriented, customized and networked, says Tomlinson-Keasey. To this end, the CVU allows users to test-drive online courses and receive email on new course offerings specifically geared to their individual preferences. To date, more than 6,000 users have asked to be emailed about new classes.

"We're not just competing with other states, we're competing with other countries because distance is not a factor," says Halberg.

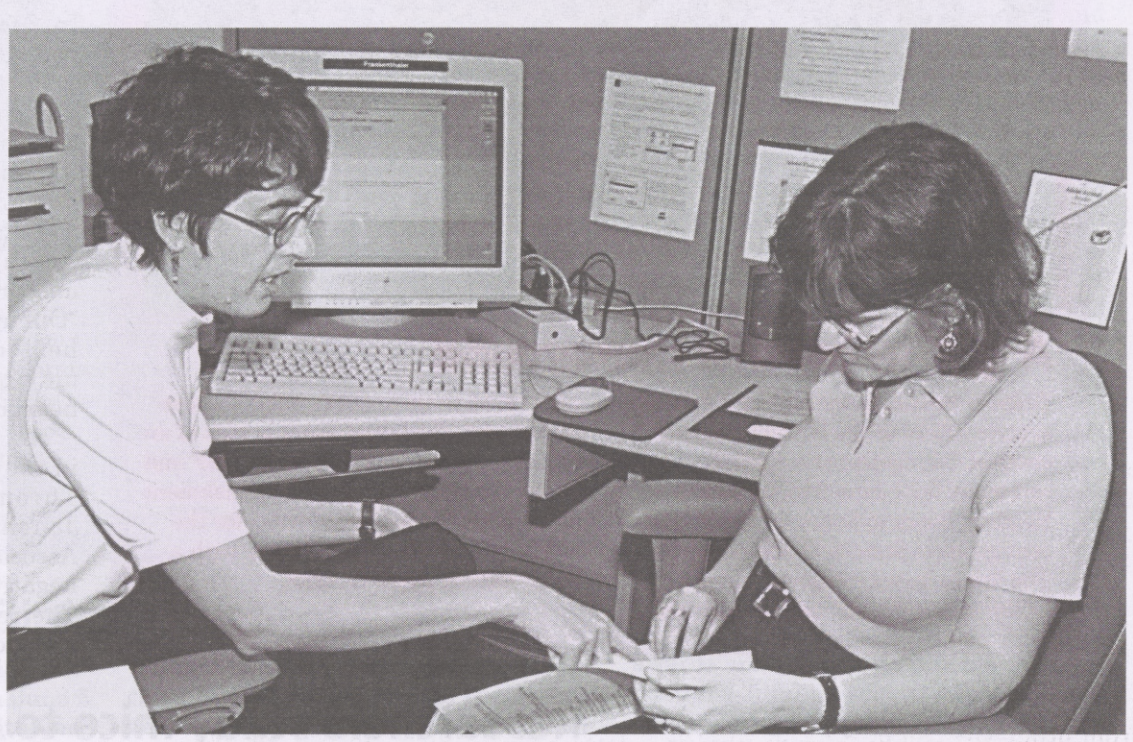
"About a fifth of the email we get is from international visitors," he says. "We've had a number of delegations visit us as well from Norway, Japan, Australia and Canada."

A group of UCSF faculty and staff assembled to coordinate response to this new opportunity agree that joining the CVU has the potential to spark interest and draw new students to UCSF, add the convenience of accessing course material from the Web and further the continuing education of all health care professionals.

"I think it's a useful approach," says Karen Butter, acting library director and part of the group discussing the CVU. "I think it's one we need to consider to remain competitive and to serve the private sector."

While the School of Nursing has piloted a handful of interactive, long-distance video courses with UC Berkeley and UCLA, Zina Mirsky, associate dean for administration, says, "faculty are interested in taking it one step further to develop Internet-based coursework which would be useful for students in Fresno or those who live only a block away."

And by sharing coursework on the Web it may be possible to avoid duplicating coursework offered in San Francisco and Fresno, Mirsky adds.



The trend to adapt instruction for the information age has escalated in recent years with the opening of the library's multimedia lab, where Gail Persily, left, provides expertise to those who seek it.

Citing examples such as the tobacco industry papers and AIDS information, which UCSF already makes available on the Web, Tomlinson-Keasey says UCSF can make more of its research and resources available. While the UCSF library already tries to make as much information as possible in digital format, Butter says publishing research on the Web isn't as easy as it seems since there are licensing fees and other issues.

And while an initial aim of the CVU was to decrease costs of education, it seems that goal is impossible as upgrading information technology is no cheap feat, says Tomlinson-Keasey. Add to that building in interaction via chat rooms and email, training faculty and staff and hiring technicians and the expense rises.

"There has to be continual investment in technology and desktop support to train faculty," says Butter.

While the CVU has gained corporate sponsorship from giants such as Cisco Systems Inc., Microsystems Inc. and Pacific Bell, it is counting on additional financial support through legislation, Assembly Bill 2431, aimed at helping campuses with the costs of converting coursework to an online format. As part of the Governor's 1998/99 budget proposal, UCSF would get about $60,000 in the first round of funding to develop coursework at the graduate level. This money would have to be matched by the University. The coordinating group has discussed developing an introductory informatics course that would serve as an introduction to the health sciences. Such a course could encompass core material common to all major applications of informatics at UCSF, says Cliff Attkisson, dean of graduate studies and associate vice chancellor for student academic affairs.

Not only is there a cross-school need for such an offering at UCSF, Attkisson notes that informatics is not currently offered via the CVU and the course is obviously well suited for a distance-learning format. Attkisson is appealing to faculty to think of other potential course offerings. All courses developed must be approved by the Academic Senate using the standard campus procedures. UCSF's proposals will be submitted to the Office of the President for final review and approval by Thursday, Oct. 1.

"Curriculum has always been the province of the faculty so we must get this to the campuses and into the faculty's hands."

— CAROL TOMLINSON-KEASEY
UC vice president for academic initiatives

Kudos to computer network pioneer

Professor Thomas Ferrin, the father of UCSF's computer network and co-founder of the first Bay Area network that eventually became part of the Internet, is this year's winner of the Academic Senate's Award for University Service.

Director of the UCSF Computer Graphics Laboratory, Ferrin is being honored for demonstrating "extraordinary commitment and service to UCSF for many years in support of the campus' data communications network and the UCSF connection to the Internet."

Thanks to Ferrin's vision and leadership over the past 16 years, "the research programs of many faculty have been significantly enhanced, staff have been able to communicate and to work more effectively, and students have had access to a variety of resources that otherwise would not have been available," according to three faculty members who nominated him for the award.

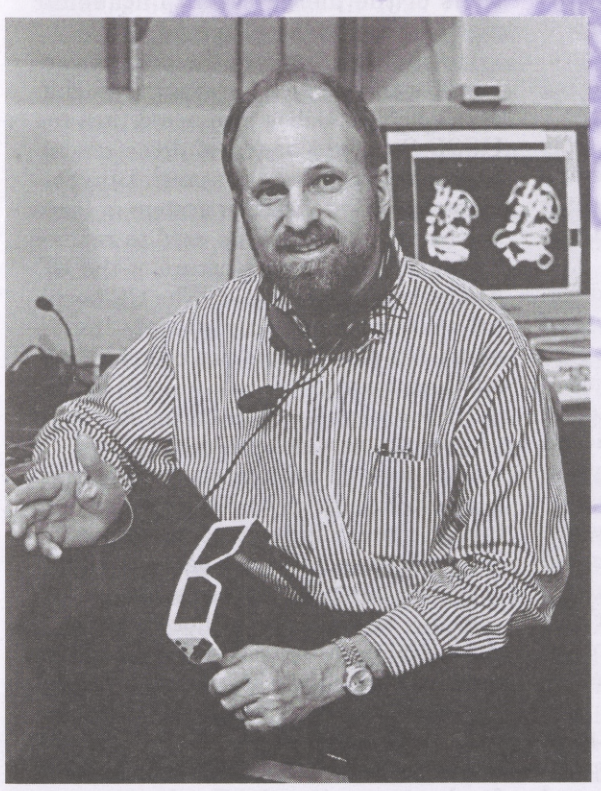
Today, Ferrin, working with a team from other UC campuses and the UC Office of the President, is building a very high-speed data network to connect all UC campuses and other major universities in California. UCSF will play a major role in creating this network, financed with a $3.8 million grant awarded by the National Science Foundation (NSF). Expected to be operational this summer, the network will benefit many groups who conduct collaborative research as well as all Internet users at UCSF.

Ferrin, who has served as a member of the executive committee of the Chancellor's Integrated Advanced Information Management System Planning Group, is considered a national expert on communications network technology. Ferrin's laboratory, a National Institutes of Health/National Center for Research Resources Center, demonstrated a new computer software application that fosters interactive collaborative research among scientists at distant locations to members of Congress and the White Office of Science and Technology Policy in March.

A pioneer of UCSF's entire data network "backbone," Ferrin in April 1982 convinced the then director of the campus computer center (now known as Information Technology Services), to fund a pilot project to demonstrate the feasibility and potential benefits of a campus Ethernet-based data communications network, which he designed connecting a handful of computers on Parnassus. That mini-network began operating in January 1984.

A year later, Ferrin designed and built a data communication link to the ARPAnet — the first network to transport email across the US and a predecessor of the Internet. Through a special link between UCSF and UC Berkeley that Ferrin conceptualized, engineered and funded, researchers could send and receive email outside the campus for the first time. This was UCSF's only link to the outside world for more than two years.

In 1986, Ferrin, together with Ray Neff from UC Berkeley and Robert Street from Stanford, were successful in obtaining a NSF grant to form a regional high-speed data communications network in the Bay Area. When the Bay Area Regional Network (BARRNet) began operating in June 1987, it was the first regional network in the US based on high-speed communication links and connected the campus networks of UCSF, UC Berkeley and Stanford. With additional support from the NSF, BARRNet and a few other regional networks located throughout the country were connected together into what evolved into the Internet.



Thomas Ferrin

Instructional Grants Program

UCSF awarded 14 grants for a total of $58,822 to those interested in taking instruction into the digital age. This year, two grants programs, the Instructional Improvement Project and the Instructional Technology Development Grants were merged into a single program, the Instructional Grants Program. Here's a glimpse of what's being done.

Minang Pravin Turakhia, 2nd-year student, School of Medicine: Create a website that will serve as a comprehensive directory of high-quality medical instructional websites. Sites will be reviewed and the list will be browsable and searchable.

Pat Calarco/Doug Schmucker, professors, anatomy, School of Medicine: Create a website on histology that provides access to about 100 images as well as other teaching material for course on cell and molecular biology and histology of tissues and organs.

Mary Wiliams, adjunct professor, professor in residence, dermatology fellow, dermatology, School of Medicine: Develop a CD-ROM and web-based tutorial so that residents throughout the UCSF residency sites can be familiar with the diagnosis and initial management of common dermatologic problems.

Jeff Wiese/Terrie Mendelson, general internal medicine/medical education fellow: Develop a course curriculum to teach oral communication skills to third- and fourth-year medical students rotating through the VA medical service.

Kenneth W. Lem, lecturer & associate dean for educational affairs, clinical pharmacy, School of Pharmacy: Develop a convenient distance-learning faculty development program for about 500 WOS (without salary) clinical faculty members throughout the state from Sacramento to San Diego.

Richard H. Shafer, professor, pharmaceutical chemistry, School of Pharmacy: Introduce dynamic 3-D visualization of molecular structures into the curriculum so that class discussions on drug-macromolecule interactions can be brought alive by the use of real-time computer graphics, which allow the instructor to rotate, translate, and otherwise manipulate drug and protein structures.

David A. Graham, clinical professor, restorative dentistry, School of Dentistry: Create videos of cavity preparations using a high-resolution surgical microscope and video camera so that students will see the process before they begin their own preparations.

Stuart A. Gansky, assistant adjunct professor, Dental Public Health & Hygiene, School of Dentistry: Create a web-based, interactive graduate level course on clinical research methods.

Virginia L. Carrieri-Kohlman, professor, physiological nursing, School of Nursing: Adapt an existing course by introducing an experimental approach to the instructional content and placing the course on a website to enable the course to be offered more frequently and to students at distant sites.

Diana Taylor, associate professor, family health care nursing, School of Nursing: Reform a conventional course in the primary care core curriculum by using multimedia technology for distance education.

Randall H. Kramer, professor, stomatology and anatomy, School of Dentistry: Digitize images of histological specimens to create a histology atlas to increase student access to specimens during lab time.

David E. Konerding, graduate student, Graduate Group in Biophysics: Adapt MidasMovie 1.0 for the instructive visualization of molecular motion so that it can be used for teaching by making it easier to use and providing an interactive web-based system for instruction.

Deadline to apply for long-term care insurance near

UC employees have an opportunity again this year to buy long-term care insurance to help pay for the expenses of at-home care or nursing home care for themselves, their spouses, parents or parents-in-law.

The deadline for the 1998 application period is Tuesday, June 30.

This is the second year that CalPERS, which has more than 100,000 enrollees, is extending enrollment to UC employees and retirees.

Offering the nation's first self-funded, not-for-profit long-term care benefits, CalPERS long-term care insurance plans cost an average of 30 percent less than comparable commercial plans.

While most people don't want to think of growing old or getting sick, an accident or illness can happen anytime in life. And paying out of pocket for long-term care is a costly proposition. Nursing home care costs an average about $47,000 per year with the average length of stay two years. At-home care can cost $20,000 or more per year depending on the kind of care needed.

Most seniors are ill prepared to meet all the financial obligations as they age, says Jane Mahakian, director of the Elder Care Referral Service at UCSF. Facing costs of medical care, prescriptions, long-term care, many adults watch as their parents struggle to make ends meet. "Most do not qualify for Medi-Cal and are having to pool their family resources together," Mahakian says.

While Medi-Cal does cover long-term care, it's only after a person spends down all of his or her assets. Those who already qualify for Medi-Cal or would spend their assets within a few months, would likely not benefit from buying long-term care insurance. Medicare, Medi-Gap and health plans typically provide little or no long-term care coverage and disability coverage doesn't include long-term care.

Employees can choose from one of three CalPERS plans: The Comprehensive Plan, the Nursing Home/Assisted Living Facility Only Plan and the Partnership Plan. The Comprehensive Plan and the Partnership Plan both cover a broad range of services including personal care, homemaker services, home care, adult day care, assisted living/residential facility care, nursing home care and more. The Nursing Home/Assisted Living Facility Only Plan limits care to a nursing home or an assisted living facility, sometimes called a residential care facility.

Mahakian, who has reviewed the CalPERS plan, thinks it's a worthwhile investment. "I think the babyboomers are now wising up," Mahakian says. "They're planning ahead for growing older."

Among the features of the CalPERS long-term insurance program:

- As a tax-qualified program, benefits are received tax free and premiums may be tax deductible.
- Most enrollees can opt for a payroll or pension deduction to pay monthly premiums.
- There is no pre-existing condition exclusion.
- Coverage cannot be canceled because of age or changes in health.
- Plans allow insured to choose built-in inflation protection or to increase benefits at a later date at an additional cost.
- A care advisor provides enrollee assistance to answer questions, evaluate choices, identify quality providers and make arrangements for care.
- All of the plans have a waiver of premium while the enrollee receives benefits.

Premium rates are based on age. So the younger a person is when they purchase coverage, the less expensive the monthly premiums. For example, under 1998 premium rates, a 35-year-old would pay a monthly fee of $17 for a lifetime comprehensive plan and $40 for the same plan with inflation protection. A 50-year-old would pay $35 and $80 respectively for those plans.

For more information, call 1/800/908-9119 or visit the website at (http://www.calpers.ca.gov/ltc).

Elder Care Referral Service moves

The UCSF Elder Care Referral Service has joined with the Institute for Health & Aging and so too has Jane Mahakian, who holds a doctorate in clinical psychology with an emphasis in geriatrics. Mahakian, who has set up her office at the Institute's third-floor location at Laurel Heights, is available to provide information and support to members of the campus community who have elder care issues.

As the greying of America continues, most adults, at one time or another, will have to tend to the needs of their aging parents or family members, she says. Whether it's selecting a quality long-term care facility or actually providing the day-to-day care at home, UCSF employees are no different when it comes to taking on family responsibilities of all kinds.

Mahakian leads classes in elder care that gives participants practical advice on how to manage the lives of their older loved ones. Sign-ups have started for the next six-week class to begin Wednesday, July 8. Classes will be held from 11 a.m. to noon. To register, call Mahakian at 502-8673.

And while Mahakian doesn't have all the answers, she can point to other resources that might. For example, Mahakian has copies of a new guide to senior residences in the San Francisco Bay Area. Those interested in getting a copy of the guide, New Lifestyles, may call Mahakian at the above number.

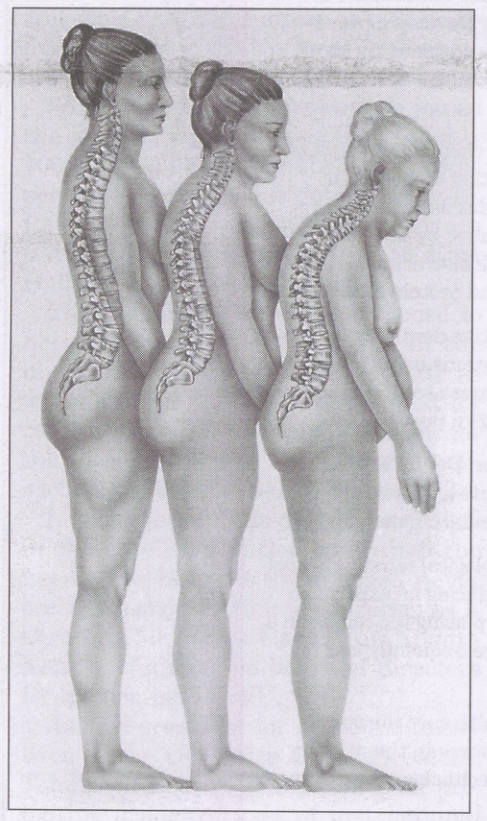
"The Bay Area has plenty of resources in the area of elder care and people should consult with me before making a decision," says Mahakian.

The Elder Care Referral Service is also offering two six-week elder care support groups for caregivers. Psychologist Lois Goodwill, formerly of the Faculty Staff Assistance Program, is now volunteering at the Institute and Donna Christner-Lile, a life transition specialist, will each lead one confidential support group for UCSF employees who may benefit from the comfort and comaraderie of others caring for their elders. Both groups will begin meeting on Wednesday, July 8. Goodwill's group will meet from 11 a.m. to noon and Christner-Lile's will meet from noon to 1 p.m. To register for either group, call 502-8673.

MEDICAL CALL BOARD

Osteoporosis

UCSF's Prevention Sciences Group seeks healthy women who are between one and ten years past menopause and who are not taking estrogen for an eight-week nutrition study to determine whether the amount of salt a person eats in their food can affect their bones. Participants will be paid. For more information, call Deborah Sellmeyer at 597-4982.



Age 40 Age 60 Age 70

Progression of vertebral fractures in osteoporosis

Allergic asthma

Researchers in the division of allergy/immunology are conducting a study to evaluate a novel therapy for the treatment of allergic asthma. This new therapeutic approach involves the injection of a protein called E25 or anti-IgE antibody under the skin with the intention of blocking allergic reactions to environmental allergens such as house dust, animal dander and cockroach allergen.

This study is designed to evaluate E25's efficacy in reducing asthma symptoms, reducing required amounts of inhaled steroid medication, and improving lung function in patients with allergic asthma. Participants must be between the ages of 12 and 75, be diagnosed with allergic asthma, and require daily treatment with an inhaled corticosteroid medication. For more information, please call Kevin Haskell at 476-5648.

Balance and posture

The UCSF/SFGH Orthopaedic Biomechanics Laboratory is seeking men and women 70 years and older for a study investigating balance and posture. Participants must be able to stand independently and walk a distance of 15 feet. They should not have a history of neurological disease, such as stroke or Parkinson's disease; amputations or severe arthritis. Participants also must not be taking tranquilizers, antidepressants, antiarrhythmics, or high blood pressure medications and be able to read and understand English. The study consists of two sessions of about three hours each. Participants will be paid $10 per hour. Test sessions will be conducted at SFGH. Interested individuals should call Liz Hsiao at 206-6865.

Epidural effects on fever

UCSF's Outcomes Research Group is seeking males for a study evaluating the effects of epidural anesthesia on fever. Fever is induced by injection of a drug, Interleukin-2. This is a four-day, randomly assigned study consisting of two epidural anesthesia days and two non-anesthesia days.

Subjects must be in good health, between the ages of 18 and 35 years old, be non-smokers, drug and medication free and be of average weight for height.

Participants will be paid a total of $775.For more information, call Azita Moayeri, research manager, at 476-8436 or email her at azita_moayeri@quickmail.ucsf.edu.

School (from page 1)

tention to the School of Medicine, and particularly to education, Debas said he "took the giant step of reorganizing the administration" to eliminate duplication of effort and produce unanticipated synergies. For example, with the recruitment of David Irby as vice dean for education, the school is creating a team to develop a research program in medical education.

"I feel strongly that it is not enough to know that we do a great job of educating our students; it is critical to know why we do such a great job," he said.

Irby arrived in time to join members of the curriculum committee to plan the fundamental curricular changes that will unfold in the fall of 1999, Debas said. "Perhaps the most significant is the six-month longitudinal clerkship. This gives the student the opportunity to actually follow a patient over time and have a sustained mentoring experience from a practicing physician."

The concept was piloted in Fresno and was a resounding success, he noted.

Debas said he is "upbeat" about UCSF-Fresno, which recently received a permanent budget augmentation of $4.5 million from the state legislature. "We are restructuring our Fresno faculty, and reviewing and strengthening our relationship with our multiple partners in Fresno," Debas said. "We hope to construct a new UCSF-Fresno building at community hospitals to house our academic programs, faculty and state-of-the-art information system."

Debas announced that medical students, who are faced with debt averaging about $48,000, also will get some financial relief in the form of a $1 million endowment for scholarships. Established by the Bernard Osher Foundation, the scholarship program begins in the winter quarter of 1999, and when it is fully implemented, nine students will receive about $5,500 a year for the last three years of medical school.

In reviewing the state of minority representation at the medical school, Debas said that despite the UC Regents' ban on affirmative action and Proposition 209, the school experienced only a 6 percent decline in applications of underrepresented minorities for the 1997 entering class, and 1998 figures look even better.

"The 1998 entering class is not fully composed, but at this point I understand that our numbers are actually better than two years ago," he said. "This is very encouraging."

In keeping with this focus on education, the topic for the 1999 School of Medicine Leadership Retreat will be education, Debas said. "This represents a welcome change from the retreat topics that have focused on medical practice and managed care for the past five years — a return to our core mission," he said.

Noting that change is the only constant in patient care, Debas said UCSF Stanford Health Care is "off to a good start" and is ahead of budget. Two years ago, UCSF was closing inpatient areas; now as part of the merged organization, it is considering adding patient care capacity.

"Contrary to the gloomy predictions, there is a remarkable degree of cooperation and camaraderie among faculty and staff," he said.

Indeed, faculty and staff from both universities agreed on a set of principles to guide the relationship of the two independent medical schools, which has been posted on the UCSF website, Debas said. And a group has developed a plan that outlines how multidisciplinary service lines can be created without undermining the academic departments. "This organizational restructuring may prove to be one of the most significant contributions of the merger and to academic medicine everywhere," he said.

Highlighting some of the patient care benefits the merger is bringing to children's health, Debas also noted that the UCSF Stanford board of directors recently approved a substantial investment for an information system, a large portion of which "will be used to replace the antiquated infrastructure of the UC hospital system," he said. "The UC hospital system is not only grossly inadequate, but also it could not be made Year 2000 compliant."

The new system will be up and running by the next millenium, he said.

"For sure we will continue to experience growing pains and the challenge of bringing two cultures together for several years to come, but I believe we are achieving our goals," Debas said.

As his term as chancellor comes to a close, Debas promised to hold regular meetings with the chairs of clinical departments to review the "successes as well as the challenges of the merger" and to "work closely with the chairs and faculty to monitor the developments to protect UCSF's clinical, financial and academic interests and to promote better integration."

— Paula Murphy contributed to this report.

CAMPUS BRIEFS

Library to start charging printing fees

The library will start charging fees for all printing at library workstations, beginning Monday, July 6.

These fees are essential to support reliable, fast, high-quality equipment and supplies for printing at Library computer workstations. The Library does not have sufficient funds to continue to cover the costs of the high volume of printing experienced during the past year.

The new printing fees will be the same as currently charged for photocopies. UCSF staff and students will be charged 7.5 cents per page. Non-UCSF personnel will be charged 20 cents per page plus tax.

Also beginning July 6, individuals must establish personal print charging accounts to enable printing at public workstations. Each person will need to set up his or her own password-protected library printing account. To set up an account, UCSF employees will need their employee identification number, as shown on their pay statements. Students will need their UCSF PIN number. All UCSF users will also need the last four digits of their social security number.

For more details on how to set up a library printing account and other related information, fact sheets will be available at Library service desks. Check GALEN II at http://www.library.ucsf.edu/library/lpc.html for current information.

Millberry Fitness Center hikes monthly fees

Membership to the Millberry Fitness Center will cost $2 more per month beginning July 1, according to Claire Sanchez, membership director.

Due to a projected rise in operational expenses, the fees will now be $36 per month. This increase will enable Millberry to continue offering state-of-the-art equipment in a pleasant facility. Employees with payroll deductions needn't do a thing. If you have any questions regarding the fee increase, call Sanchez at 476-0348.

General Internal Medicine moves to Mount Zion

Beginning Wednesday, July 1, the General Internal Medicine Practices will move from Parnassus to the UCSF/ Mount Zion campus.

Part of UCSF Stanford Health Care, the new practice will have many advantages, such as its location in a new, centrally located building and its intimate setting.

The practice will be located at 1701 Divisadero St. on the fifth floor, across from the UCSF/Mount Zion Medical Center. The phone number to schedule an appointment at the new site is 353-7300. For more information prior to the move, call 476-4624.

Poison control calendars on sale

The 1999 Poison Prevention Calendar, a collection of artwork created by children throughout California, is on sale now for $10.

Proceeds will be used to promote the California Poison Control System's (CPCS) education outreach program.

The CPCS began operating last January to provide toll-free access to advice after a potential poisoning exposure and to educate the public and the health professional community about poisoning treatment and prevention. The system has received more than 332,000 calls statewide since then. Nearly 240,000 of these calls involved actual poisonings.

As supplies are limited, orders placed by Saturday, Aug. 15 are guaranteed delivery. Orders of 10 calendars or more, received prior to Aug. 15, will receive a 20 percent discount. Mail requests to the California Poison Control System, UCSF, Box 1262, San Francisco, CA 94143.

AAMC photography competition

The AAMC Reporter invites medical students and residents to participate in its first annual photography competition, "Images: Learning to Heal." They can enter one or more color photos that reflect a learner's perspective of medical training. Color transparencies or digital images are preferred; color prints of excellent quality may be acceptable.

The deadline for entries is Friday, July 10. The grand prize winner will receive a $500 cash prize and an additional 10 runners-up will be selected. For more information, email Peter Chin, AAMC Office of Communications, at pchin@aamc.org.

Crime (from page 1)

in the previous year.

- UC's 684 burglaries in 1997 represented a 30 percent decline from 1996 and more than a 50 percent decline since 1993, when an all-time high 1,415 burglaries were reported. Bicycle thefts were down 17 percent to 1,184. Other thefts were down 5 percent, to 4,191, and motor vehicle thefts dropped 20 percent to 288.
- There was a 65 percent decline in the number of firearms-related incidents, 42 compared with 69.
- There were 21 reported hate crimes based on the race, religion, sexual orientation, ethnicity or disability of the victim. That number increased from 18 reported in 1996. There were 73 cases of domestic violence, up one from 1996.

Among offenses not counted as an index crime in the FBI survey — such as simple assault, trespassing and narcotics possession — the overall number of UC incidents declined to 4,981, a 10 percent drop in a year and 3,177 fewer than in 1987.

While the number of incidents reported in most other crime categories dropped, increases were reported in felony narcotics possession (30 percent, from 120 to 156), forced sexual assault (25 percent, 21 to 26), simple assault (14 percent, from 286 to 327) and traffic offenses (9 percent, 698 to 772).

Arrests increased in 1997 to 3,066, including 437 arrests for FBI index crimes, an increase of more than 12 percent from 1996.

By a margin of nearly 6-to-1, most suspects arrested for UC-related crimes had no affiliation with UC either as a student or an employee.

UC police also report to the FBI their agency's clearance rate — the percentage of crimes solved by arrest and/or conviction or otherwise attributed to a known perpetrator who could not be arrested because he or she was in custody elsewhere, at large or mentally incompetent.

The 1997 clearance rate for FBI index crimes was 8 percent — average for the last 10 years. The clearance rate for all crimes was 50 percent, down 3 percent from 1996.

Last year was the UC Police Department's 50th anniversary as a fully sworn statewide police agency. There are more than 300 UC police officers — trained and certified under the same standards as other police officers in California who provide police and safety services for nearly 300,000 UC students, faculty and staff throughout the state. UC has reported its crime statistics for more than 30 years through the state's Bureau of Criminal Statistics operated by the California Department of Justice.

School of Nursing

Commencement 1998

Students, faculty praised at ceremony

The School of Nursing honored its outstanding graduates at commencement ceremonies for 225 students on June 5 at the Nob Hill Masonic Memorial Auditorium.

Bonnie Raingruber and Janice Stinson received the Distinguished Dissertation Award in Nursing, which recognizes doctoral students whose dissertation best exemplifies scholarliness and innovation, and best contributes to the discipline of nursing.

Debra Bone received the Anselm Strauss Special Award, which honors a doctoral student whose dissertation best exemplifies scholarliness in qualitative research.

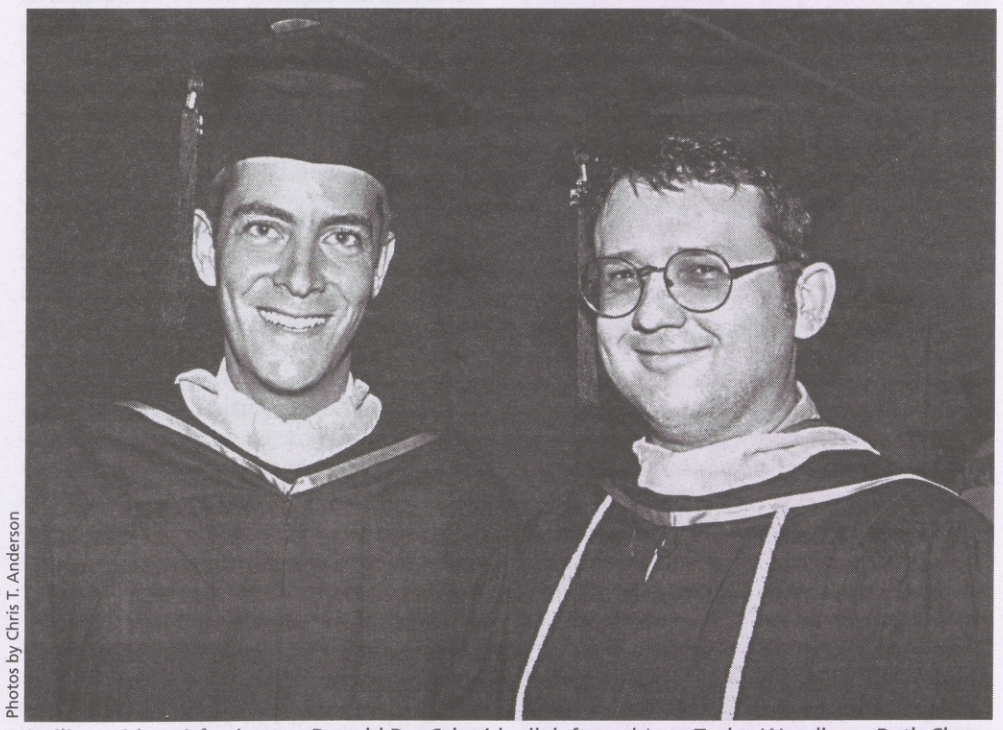
Julia Challinor won the Nursing Alumni Student Award for Meritorious Service, which goes to a graduating student who, while enrolled in the School of Nursing, makes a significant contribution to the community.

Jennifer Scanlon was honored as the Outstanding Master of Science Student, which recognizes leadership, scholarship, expertise in the area of specialization, and potential for significant contribution to nursing.

The graduating class also honored JoAnne Saxe, associate clinical professor, community health systems, for Excellence in Teaching, MS Program; and Steven Paul, lecturer, physiological nursing, as Mentor of the Year, Doctoral Program.

Recently appointed Dean of the School of Nursing at Yale University, Catherine Gilliss led the processional as Honorary Marshall for the 1998 commencement ceremonies of the UCSF School of Nursing. Gilliss, who has served as chair of the department of family health care since 1993, spearheaded the School's development of a core curriculum in primary care nursing and is a past recipient of both a Teacher of the Year Award by the School of Nursing and Distinction in Teaching Honorable Mention from the Academic Senate.

After receiving her diploma, Haebaragi Kim celebrates with her family, including her two-year-old son Isiah Kim.



Photos by Chris T. Anderson

Smiling with satisfaction are Donald Ray Schmidgall, left, and Jean Taylor-Woodbury. Both Class of 1998 graduates are members of the Sigma Theta Tau, the National Nursing Honor Society.

June 20–July 3, 1998

21 Sunday

HAPPY FATHER'S DAY

24 Wednesday

BROWN BAG LECTURE: Allan V. Giannini, clinical professor, pediatrics and consultant, allergy clinic, presents *Allergies and Asthma in 1998,* 12:10-1 p.m., HSW 300. Since Christopher Columbus' arrival in 1492, the new world's allergies have changed in the past 500 years, and treatment has really changed in the past year. Sponsored by Public Service Programs. Call 476-4394.

UC RETIREMENT SYSTEM MEETING: UCSF's Office of Benefits and Financial Planning will describe the features of the 403(b) plan, noon-1 p.m., MCB, Room 126. Call 476-1400.

25 Thursday

SPECIAL GRAND ROUNDS SEMINAR: Dave Davis, associate dean, continuing education, faculty of medicine, University of Toronto, presents *What Works and What Doesn't,* noon-1 p.m., SFGH, Carr Auditorium. Sponsored by the Department of Family and Community Medicine.

JULY

1 Wednesday

BROWN BAG LECTURE: Tom Lue, professor, urology and chief, urology at UCSF/Mount Zion presents Viagra: *What's All the Hoopla About?,* 12:10 p.m., HSW 300. Come hear a discussion about erection physiology, impotence and the potent pill. Sponsored by Public Service Programs. For more information call 476-4394.

3 Friday

FIREWORKS NIGHT & GIANTS GAME: EMPACT! is offering tickets for Fireworks Night, Giants vs. The Dodgers, 7:35 p.m., 3Com Park. For more information, call 476-6932.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Cancer center groundbreaking

The campus community is invited to attend the groundbreaking ceremony of the new clinical cancer center at the UCSF/Mount Zion Medical Center at 4 p.m. on Tuesday, July 7.

The event will take place in the empty lot where construction is ongoing.

The new five-story, 88,000-square foot building will be built at the corner of Sutter and Divisadero streets and will house the clinical cancer programs of UCSF/Mount Zion Medical Center, part of UCSF Stanford Health Care. The new facility will include a state-of-the-art radiation therapy center, a patient-oriented breast care center, mammography and chemotherapy rooms and doctors' offices.

UCSF hosts program on menopausal women

UCSF presents, "Challenges, Choices and Concerns for The Menopausal Woman: Optimizing Pharmacotherapy," on Saturday, July 11, from 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., at UCSF Laurel Heights Conference Center.

Designed for physicians who specialize in family, general and internal medicine practice as well as for pharmacists, nurses, nurse practitioners, and physician assistants, this program will emphasize understanding the clinical features of the menopausal woman and associated pharmocotherapy.

Fees are $150 for physicians and $100 for pharmacists, nurses, physicians' assistants and other allied health care professionals. The registration deadline is Wednesday, July 1. For registration information, call 476-5808

Workshop on sexual harassment prevention

The Office of Sexual Harassment Prevention and Resolution (OSHPR) will be conducting briefings for managers on Thursday, July 16, 10 a.m. to noon, S 168, on how to handle sexual harassment issues from the perspective of the manager's role. Participants will learn with vignettes, scenarios and examples drawn from campus experiences. This workshop promises to be informative and useful for new or current managers interested in updating their knowledge of the campus policy and procedures. A second session will be offered September 15. Seating is limited. To reserve a spot, call Charleane Williams at 476-5186 or visit the website at (www.oshpr.ucsf.edu).

Register for AIDS Walk

UCSF and UCSF Stanford Health Care employees are encouraged to participate in the San Francisco AIDS Walk slated for Sunday, July 19.

The annual event will benefit Bay Area AIDS organizations, including the AIDS Community Research Consortium and the UCSF AIDS Health Project.

For more information on UCSF and UCSF Stanford's participation, call Martha Geraty at 476-4394. For general information about the walk, call 392-WALK or visit the website at (http://www.bonsai.com/aidswalksf/).

Integrative medicine inaugural symposium

The UCSF community is invited to attend the inaugural symposium of the Osher Center for Integrative Medicine on Friday, Sept. 25.

This event will honor the Osher Foundation and its gift to UCSF. See full story on page 1. The symposium also will present the concept of integrative medicine to the scientific community and the public, from 1:30 to 4 p.m., in Cole Hall.

Center (from page 1)

Haile Debas, UCSF chancellor and dean of the UCSF School of Medicine.

"It is imperative that high-quality research be applied in this area, and I believe that our program is uniquely positioned to develop model methodologies necessary to conduct that research."

To be located at 1701 Divisadero St., across from UCSF/Mount Zion Medical Center, which is part of UCSF Stanford Health Care, the OCIM has been in the planning stages for the past year.

"When I first discussed the idea of a center for integrative medicine with [Debas], it became clear that he and his colleagues recognize the challenge of applying appropriate methodologies to treatments that have been outside conventional medicine," says Bernard Osher. "The Osher Center for Integrative Medicine will perform a valuable function by disseminating its objective research findings through a much-needed program of public education."

Barbro Osher, president of the Bernard Osher Foundation, praised UCSF for establishing the new center. "We have great confidence in the professional skills and integrity that the UCSF faculty will bring to this program of research and education on complementary and alternative therapies," she says.

Innovative strategies in medical education will also be a component of the OCIM's research and program agenda. "The center will develop courses for medical students and graduate physicians in relationship-centered medicine," says Rachel Naomi Remen, UCSF associate clinical professor of family and community medicine and member of the OCIM executive committee. "This is an approach that allows for the further development of the full person who is the physician, to better serve the full person who is the patient."

Very few US medical research centers scientifically test and analyze alternative therapies, and the OCIM is one of the first centers committed to doing so to help the public and health care professionals make informed health care decisions.

Despite the absence of hard evidence regarding the effectiveness and safety of complementary therapies, it is estimated that one in three Americans now use these treatments, making about 425 million visits annually to alternative practitioners.

The OCIM's current research focuses on areas such as alternative approaches to treating coronary heart disease and integrative therapies for breast cancer that include traditional Chinese herbal medicine, yoga, dance, meditation and art therapy. In addition, the center is examining the efficacy and toxicity of the herbal extracts of a plant found in the Peruvian Amazon known as Cat's Claw or *Uncaria Tomentosa* on metastatic breast cancer.

During an ongoing series of education and training programs, the OCIM's innovative research will be presented to the public and medical community. The first event — the OCIM inaugural symposium — is planned for this fall and will honor the Osher Foundation and its gift to UCSF. The symposium also will present the concept of integrative medicine to the scientific community and public and demonstrate how it is possible to do rigorous research in an area that traditionally has been considered unscientific in nature.

"As a public institution, we have a responsibility to share our research and educate the community about various health care treatments and approaches to help them make more informed decisions about their health care," Debas says.

A national search is under way for a permanent director of the OCIM who will also be named the Osher Distinguished Professor of Integrative Medicine. For more information on the center, please call 502-0285.

Survey to gauge interest in research collaboration

The Osher Center for Integrative Medicine (OCIM) hopes to identify faculty and fellows in all UCSF schools interested in collaborations in its research-oriented program. The center is mailing a survey to gauge the level and type of interest among researchers at all UCSF sites.

The goal of the center is to serve as a catalyst to promote interdisciplinary collaboration among experts in basic, clinical and social sciences. It will provide an infrastructure for conducting research and producing successful grant proposals. In the future, a limited amount of support for relevant projects will be available.

"We welcome scientists and educators from all points of view, and we particularly wish to encourage those in the UCSF community who have never considered collaborating in this field," says Ellen Hughes, interim director of the OCIM.

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Investment Fund Performance

Total rates of return for the UC 403(b), DCP, and comparative indices

Ending May 31, 1998

UC Fund/Index	1 Month	3 Month	12 Month	5 Year*	Year To Date
UC Savings Fund	**0.51%**	**1.51%**	**6.17%**	**6.48%**	**2.51%**
US T-Bill (1-Yr)	0.44	1.32	5.42	5.30	2.21
UC Money Market Fund	**0.47**	**1.40**	**5.70**	**5.15**	**2.32**
US T-Bill (30-Day)	4.00	1.23	5.11	4.75	2.06
UC ICCF Fund	**0.61**	**1.80**	**7.53**	**7.82**	**2.99**
UC Bond Fund	**1.36**	**2.95**	**23.56**	**12.96**	**5.28**
Lehman Bros. Gov't/Corp/Yankee	1.07	1.89	11.48	7.18	3.12
UC Equity Fund	**-3.08**	**2.01**	**17.91**	**18.06**	**7.75**
S&P 500	1.72	4.35	30.71	22.17	13.12
UC Multi-Asset Fund	**-0.64**	**2.00**	**13.78**	**11.52**	**4.96**

*Annualized rate of return reflects average over the past five years.

Unit values for variable funds as of May 31, 1998:

Equity	**$220.39**
Bond	**108.96**
Multi-Asset	**23.98**

Unit values are similar to mutual fund share prices and change monthly to reflect changes in the market value of the fund's underlying investments, inclusive of interest and dividend income. Past performance is neither a guarantee nor a predictor of future returns.

Source: Jerry Neal, UCSF Benefits and Financial Planning

Chris T. Anderson